Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 OMB-01 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /033 W ------120901Z 020770 /14

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CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 0287

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES

REF: (A) STATE 15601, (B) STATE 007093.

- 1. AS INSTRUCTED REFTELS, I TOOK UP QUESTION OF IRAQI FIRMS INVOLVING DISCRIMINATION ON BASIS OF JEWISH FAITH WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY BOYCOTT OFFICE HAMEED ON FEBRUARY 9. HAMEED HAS REPLACED DIRECTOR GENERAL TAI WITH WHOM WE HAD PREVIOUSLY HAD DIALOGUE ON THE USE OF THIS FORM. HAMEED'S INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT FORM HAD BEEN FORGED BY ZIONIST AGENTS WHO WERE ATTEMPTING TO BLACKEN IRAQ'S IMAGE IN THE UNITED STATES. UPON FURTHER CONSIDERATION, HOWEVER, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT LAW FIRM MAY IN FACT HAVE ISSUED FORM BUT INSISTED THAT THIS WAS AN ACTION TAKEN BY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND NOT BY THE GOI. HE DECLARED THAT GOI WOULD NOT ISSUE A DOCUMENT USING SUCH LANGUAGE.
- 2. I POINTED OUT THAT GOI WAS INVOLVED BECAUSE FORMS WERE ACCEPTED BY GOI OFFICES AS PART OF PROCESS OF OBTAINING RENEWAL OF TRADEMARKS OR PATENTS. I ALSO SAID THAT LANGUAGE IN NORM WAS CONTRARY TO IRAQ'S STATED POLICY AND THAT USE OF SUCH LANGUAGE WAS CONFIDENTIAL.

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POLITICALLY HARMFUL TO IRAQ IN THE UNITED STATES. I THEN POINTED OUT THAT AMERICAN FIRMS THAT SIGNED FORMS WERE BEING INVESTIGATED FOR POSSIBLE PROSECUTION.

3. HAMEED AGREED THAT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE OR RELIGION WAS CONTRARY TO IRAQI POLICY AND SAID THAT HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH THE LAWYERS WHO ISSUED FORM.

HE SAID HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO TO HAVE
THE OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE REMOVED, IF FORM IS STILL IN
USE.
WILEY

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Message Attributes

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